

1 IN THE SPECIFICATION

2  
3 1. Replace the paragraph beginning on page 3 at line 14 with the following paragraph:

4 A method embodying the principles of the invention includes the step of detecting  
5 whether a cover is present on the game ticket that is inserted at the player station. The method  
6 also includes disabling the player station from displaying gaming results (also referred to  
7 throughout this disclosure as "game play outcomes") associated with the game ticket in the event  
8 that the detecting step indicates that the cover is present on the game ticket. Some forms of the  
9 invention may further include producing a display or other output to notify the player when the  
10 cover has been detected. This notification may prompt the player to remove the cover from the  
11 game ticket and reinsert the ticket.

12  
13 2. Replace the paragraph beginning on page 4 at line 21 with the following paragraph:

14 In some forms of the invention, the ability of the sensor to produce the desired sensor  
15 output is dependent upon a particular orientation of the game ticket in the player station. In these  
16 forms of the invention, a method embodying the principles of the invention may also include the  
17 step of detecting an orientation of the game ticket in the player station. In embodiments that  
18 detect the orientation of the game ticket, the player station may be disabled from displaying game  
19 gaming results only when the cover detecting step indicates that the cover has been removed and  
20 the orientation detecting step indicates that the game ticket is properly inserted in the player  
21 station. The invention may further include the step of providing or displaying a message or other  
22 indication to the player in the event that the orientation determining step indicates that the game

1 ticket is in an improper orientation. This indication prompts the player to remove the game ticket  
2 and reinsert the game ticket in the proper orientation.

3  
4 3. Replace the paragraph beginning on page 8 at line 16 with the following paragraph:

5 As shown in FIG. 2, each player station 17 includes a computer system having a  
6 processor 20, touch screen display 21, a control panel 22, a player card reader 23, a game ticket  
7 reader 24, and a cover sensor device 25. Player station 17 may also include a separate game  
8 ticket orientation sensor device shown at reference numeral 26, although some forms of the  
9 player station may omit such an orientation sensor within the scope of the invention or  
10 incorporate the orientation sensor function in game ticket reader 24 as will be discussed below.  
11 Player station software or program code executed by processor 20 receives information from  
12 player card reader 23 to log a player into back office system 11, and to operate the game ticket  
13 reader 24 to read the player's game ticket. The player station program control code also causes  
14 display 21 to show graphic game representations indicating the results of game plays (that is, the  
15 game play outcomes) associated with the player's game ticket, unless the player station is  
16 disabled from displaying results according to the invention as will be described further below.

17  
18 4. Replace the paragraph beginning on page 12 at line 16 with the following paragraph:

19 The ticket indicia, which in the illustrated case comprise indices or result codes 49,  
20 printed on the printed side 41 of ticket 40, and perhaps other information on the printed side of  
21 the ticket, are covered with some material prior to the time that the ticket is dispensed to the  
22 player. Preferably, this cover material is applied immediately after the indicia or result codes 49

1 are printed on ticket 40 so that no one can see the game play results outcomes printed on the  
2 ticket until the ticket is dispensed and the cover removed. In preferred forms of the invention,  
3 the cover material comprises a removable sheet of material that is affixed to the ticket substrate  
4 so that it may be peeled or torn off to reveal ticket indicia 49. Other forms of the invention may  
5 employ cover material comprising a coating that may be scratched off of the ticket substrate to  
6 reveal ticket result codes 49.

7  
8 5. Replace the paragraph beginning on page 17 at line 8 with the following paragraph:

9 It will be appreciated from the figures illustrating game ticket 40 that the ticket may be  
10 inserted in several different orientations in ticket reader 24. The illustrated elongated rectangular  
11 ticket 40 may be inserted in four different orientations for example. Yet the feature 53 and/or 54  
12 may be limited to only a limited part of the surface of the ticket or cover material. Considering  
13 that the features 53 and 54 used in detecting the presence or absence of cover 51 may be limited  
14 to only a portion of the ticket or cover, the ticket must be inserted in a particular orientation in  
15 reader 24 in order for sensor 25 to provide an accurate indication of the presence or absence of  
16 cover 51. For example, if sensor 25 comprises an optical sensor and is positioned in relation to  
17 reader 24 to detect the dark stripe feature 53 shown in FIG. 3C when the ticket 40 is inserted in a  
18 "proper" orientation in the reader, the sensor 25 will not be in position to detect feature 53 if the  
19 ticket is inserted upside down with the back side 42 facing the sensor 25. Thus, some forms of  
20 the invention may include an orientation sensor that provides an output that may be used to  
21 determine if the ticket is inserted in reader 24 in the desired or proper orientation.

6. Replace the paragraph beginning on page 21 at line 15 with the following paragraph:

If it is determined at decision block 63 that game ticket 40 has been inserted correctly into reader 24 and cover 51 is absent from the ticket, then the process includes enabling player station 17, as shown at process block 65, to process the information read from the game ticket. The gaming system may or may not include further action on the part of the player in order to display results of one or more results game play outcomes associated with the gaming game ticket. The present method, however eventually returns to process block 60 at which point the player station is ready to receive a new game ticket 40.

7. Replace the paragraph beginning on page 22 at line 1 with the following paragraph:

In forms of the invention in which a sensor or sensors are adapted to detect the presence or absence of cover material at different locations on ticket 40, the process of enabling player station 17 to display results, may be limited to displaying only those results printed on ticket 40 in areas in which the cover material has been removed. Once all of the results printed in exposed areas on the ticket have been displayed, a process according to the invention may include causing player station 17 to produce a display prompting the player to remove the ticket 40 from reader 24 and remove one or more additional sections of cover material to expose additional game play outcomes printed on the ticket.

8. Replace the paragraph beginning on page 22 at line 9 with the following paragraph:

Various steps of FIG. 4 may be added, omitted, combined, altered, or performed in different sequences. For example, in one embodiment, process blocks 61 and 62 may be

- 1 combined. Also, it will be appreciated that the steps of determining the presence of cover 51 and
- 2 orientation of ticket 40 may be separated into distinct steps. Each distinct step may branch to a
- 3 separate display step for displaying a message appropriate to the determination at the respective
- 4 decision block.